

Brahmaputra, Yamuna and other major rivers; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes proposed to be implemented in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Central Government is responsible for development of water transport in National Waterways. At present, Allahabad-Haldia (1620 Kms.) on Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System and Sadiya-Dhubri (891 Kms.) in Brahmaputra have been declared as National Waterways. Government also propose to declare Kollam-Kottapuram Stretch of West Coast Canal and Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals as National Waterway.

(b) Details of Schemes sanctioned/proposed in Ganga and Brahmaputra National Waterways are as follows:—

1. River Conservancy works on Ganga.
2. Construction of terminal at Gaighat (Patna).
3. Construction of terminal at G.R. Jetty in Calcutta.
4. Setting up of infrastructural facilities between Haldia and Farakka.
5. Provision of Navigational aids on Ganga.
6. River conservancy works on Brahmaputra.
7. Provision of navigational aids on Brahmaputra.

[Translation]

Fall in Exports

807. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the strict trade rules of America have resulted in fall of India's exports;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to acquaint the industrialists with the new trade rules of America so that they may not face any problems while doing business; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to overcome the problem of balance of payment which has arisen by the trade rules of America?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to DGCI&S, Calcutta there was an increase in our exports to USA. During April–November (1991–92) exports were \$ 1852.97 million as against \$ 1772.21 million during the corresponding period on 1990–91. Quotas on textile products and anti-dumping and countervailing duty proceedings constitute the main impediments to India's export to USA. This year the problems have increased due to recession in USA and effect of import curbs on industrial production in India.

(b) and (c). Consultations are held between the two Governments both bilaterally and multi-laterally to address our concerns on trade and related economic policies and to consider measures to reduce and eliminate impediments to trade investment flows. Increase in bilateral trade textile quota has been secured for 1992 through negotiations. An attempt has been made in the Uruguay Round to improve the GATT rule on counter-

vailing and anti-dumping duty. Through the Joint Business Council, representatives of the Industries of both the countries periodically exchange views for further expanding trade. The changes in the laws and regulations of US are disseminated to the trade and industry periodically.

[English]

Mafatlal Plywood Industries Limited

808. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has issued a directives, appointing Canara Bank as the nodal agency, to assist the employees of Mafatlal Plywood Industries Ltd. to run the industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 17 (3) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, it has appointed on 22.1.92, the Canara Bank as the operating agency to formulate within 60 days a package for the revival of Mafatlal Plywood Ltd., on the basis of taken-over of management by the workers of the Company.

[Translation]

N.C.C. Training at University Level

809. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make military training through N.C.C. com-

pulsory upto the University level;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The NCC is a Voluntary scheme. Besides, the cost of imparting such training will be prohibitive.

[English]

Import of Raw Cashew

810. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any demand from the Kerala Cashew Development Corporation and other organisations for the import of raw cashew;

(b) if so, whether the permission was granted to import raw cashew considering the acute unemployment of the cashew workers of Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY-MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). In terms of the Import and Export Policy for 1990-93 (Volume I), import of Raw Cashewnuts is allowed under Open General Licence by Actual Users (Industrial) and others for actual use/stock and sale. Import contract is to be